Some Observations

Concerning the Comet, *that hath lately appear'd in forain parts, communicated from* Italy *and* Portugal.

The Italian *Account, given by* Gio. Domen. Cassini, *we thus English.*

ANno 1668. the 10th of *March* h. 1. of the following night, (after the *Italian* way of counting) at *Bononia*, I observed a path of Light extended from the *Whale* through *Eridanus*; which I judged to be the Train of a *Comet*, both by the Figure and Colour, as also because that the direction of it, being by the Fancy continued, seem'd to proceed unto the 21. degr. of *Pisces*, where the *Sun* then was, and so tended to the part opposit to the *Sun*, like other Comets. By its extreme point it reached to that Star in *Eridanus*, which is called the Fourteenth by *Bayerus*: But it issued out of the Horizontal Clouds, so that I thought, the Head of the Comet was either vailed by them, or hid under the *Horizon*. It followed the Motion of diurnal revolution Westward, and it was to be seen about the second hour of the night; for then it was demersed in the mists of the *Horizon*.

Not far from its pointed end Eastward, there appeared a *Star*, equal to the brightest of the *Fourth magnitude*, almost in the same place, where was observ'd the *Comet* of A. 1664. *Decemb.* 31. which Star was not *then* seen, nor at other times elsewhere, nor is described in any Catalogue, on any Globe or Map, that I can learn; which therefore I deem to be a *New* one, that is, of new appearance.

March 11. at even the *Horizon* was in the *West* overcast with thin Clouds; among which after one hour of the night, there was seen a Brightness in the *Whale*, at least for half an hour, which was very like the splendour of *Venus*, likewise vailed by thin clouds.

March 12. at night, the lower parts of the Heavens in the *West* were clouded, and when the *Great Dog-star* was in the Midheaven, the same Tail appear'd again. It passed through the *Star* in *Eridanus*, which *Bayerus* calls the 15th, and left to the *South-*

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ward the 14th, where it did terminate *March* 10. Being by the imagination drawn out to about 3. degrees and further, it tended to that Southern Star, which preceds the Ear of *Lepus*. It was therefore more *Northerly*, than the day before yesterday, and more *Easterly*; and it also reacht to the opposit part of the Sun. Towards the *West* it came out of the Clouds, and left us doubtful, whether its head was hid by them, or under the *Horizon*. But the Line from *Jupiter* to the extremity of the said Tayle in the Clouds was perpendicular to that Tayle; So that it was in the *Whale*, and the apparent part of the Train reached out in length about 32. degrees.

So far the Italian *relation*; *that of* Portugal *from* Lisbon *is this*;

Various are the Discourses of the newly discover'd *Comet*, seen here the first time (according to the general report of our Observers;)

March 5. st. n. But for as much as it seems to follow the Regular course of the Sun, and sets few hours after it, there could hitherto be taken no considerable observations of it. The *Body* thereof is not seen, because it remains hid in the *Horizon*. Its *Train* is of a stupendious length, extended in appearance over almost the 4th part of the visible Heaven, from West to East; its apparent breadth is of a good Palm, and its splendor very great, but it lasts but a few hours. In time there will be discourses written upon this Subject, like to be more particular and exact, which I shall transmit to you, to compare with the Observations, made in your parts.

Though these accounts be but very general and un-accurate, yet being the best, that are come to our hands, we thought it not amiss, to impart them to the publick. Several letters, written from France, *make also mention of its having been seen in sundry parts of that Kingdom, as at* Lyons, Tholouse, Toulon, *but not at* Paris; *no more than it hath been observed at* London, *or in any other part of* England, *that we can hear of by any certain relation.*

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